

LOYOLA OF MONTREAL

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HOME OF THE WARRIORS

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

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LOYOLA ICEMEN OPEN HOME CAMPAIGN

Loyola Warriors, unbeaten in Ottawa-St. Lawrence Conference varsity hockey play, make their home ice debut Wednesday against Macdonald College Clansmen in quest of their third win in a row.

The Warriors, according to coach Dave Draper, are a much wiser team following their failure to win top honors in the McGill invitational Tournament last week. Loyola won consolation honors by beating Sir George Williams University Georgians 8 - 1 after losing 4-3 to University of Montreal in a preliminary match.

"Our players now realize it takes three periods to win a hockey game," said Draper. "When we play a good team like U. of M. we just can't afford to have a bad period. They made us look bad when they outscored us 2-0 in the first 20 minutes.

"Why we got off to such a slow start against them is a mystery to me," Draper said. "I'm puzzled, because the boys were certainly 'up' for it. Maybe the fact that it was our third game in four nights had some effect on the players.

"But what impressed me was that the fellows proved to me and to themselves that they have the ability to bounce back. We were down 4-0 at one point, but we rebounded to make a terrific game out of it. It's a good sign. U. of M. is the only club we've played that has forced us to skate."

Draper is particularly pleased with his squad's balanced attack. "All the lines are scoring," he explained.

However, the Loyola lines will be shuffled for the Macdonald game due to the hospitalization over the weekend of ace centre Roger Wilding, the team captain. Wilding is suffering from hypertension and will be sidelined for at least two weeks.

As a result, Ricky Dawson is being inserted into Wilding's spot as pivot between Mike Lowe and Danny Heffernan. Brian Johnson, a utility forward, will take Dawson's place as left wing alongside Chris Hayes and Bob Jastrenski. The third line, a real 'sleeper' unit composed of Art Thomas, Mike Griffin and Bernie Austin, remains intact.

Defenceman Mike Lecour has been named acting captain during Wilding's absence. Lecour and the rest of the blueline brigade has been a source of contentment for Draper.

"The defence was a question mark at first, but I've been fairly pleased overall with their performance. I have the utmost confidence in their ability. Bill Doyle has been our leader on defence, and Denny Maloney has impressed me tremendously with his finesse.

"Goaltending is no problem," Draper continued. "Brian Hughes has proven that he's a capable netminder, and Andy Molino has been a pleasant surprise to us in practice and in the exhibition game he played against St. Mary's in Halifax.

Draper had only one area in which he would like to see the boys improve immensely. "Our shooting has got to improve," he said. "Our poor shooting cost us the U. of M. game. Also, we need a little more work on positional play, but I'm not too concerned about it because I think it will come."